

Public Health **Seattle & King County**



OSS Work Group Meeting

Draft Agenda for
Tuesday, March 22, 2016 from 1:30PM to 4:00PM.
at Environmental Health Services,
[14350 SE Eastgate Way, Bellevue, WA 98007](https://www.belleuve.wa.gov/14350-SE-Eastgate-Way)

- 1:30 Welcome & Introductions** (Darrell Rodgers, PH Section Manager)
- 1:45 Work Group Meeting Housekeeping** (Jay Watson, facilitator):
- Ground Rules
 - Goals and Roles
 - Meeting dates, times and location
 - Meeting topics
 - Information sources (OSS webpage, Work Group binders, facilitator, etc.)
- 2:15 Legal requirements and roles** (of government agencies, OSS owners, the OSS service industry and others) (Lynn Schneider, PH Staff)
- 2:30 OSS basics** (Terry Hull, OSS Expert)
- What is an OSS? How do they work? What is their design-life?
 - How do you properly operate and maintain an OSS?
 - What pollution problems come from improperly maintained or failed OSS?
- 3:00 King County OSS Program Status and Challenges** (Lynn Schneider and Terri Jenkins-McLean, PH Staff)
- Progress in implementation of 2007 OSS Management Plan
 - Marine Recovery Area experiences and challenges
 - General issues and challenges in addressing OSS
- 3:30 Program financing update** (Darrell Rodgers)
- 3:45 Public comments**
- 3:55 Meeting recap** (Jay Watson)
- 4:00 Adjourn**

OSS Work Group – Draft Ground Rules:

Purpose: this series of meetings is to obtain input, from a representative group of interested parties, on issues that will be addressed in the update of King County's OSS O&M Management Plan.

Facilitation: provided by Dr. Jay L. Watson from EPM, LLC.

Proposed Ground Rules:

1. Meetings will be open to the public and the public will have an opportunity to comment.
2. Work group participants may speak without interruption, but comments should be brief, meaningful and relevant to the issue at hand.
3. Comments and criticism should be constructive and propose a solution or alternative if possible. They should focus on issues not persons; no individual's motivations or sincerity should be questioned.
4. Participants are encouraged to use active listening to understand a speaker's points, not merely to prepare a rebuttal.
5. The facilitator's role is to ensure that discussions are courteous, stay focused on relevant topics and use meeting time efficiently.
6. Any work group participant has the right to make a point of order if they feel that the meeting is not staying on topic.
7. If Jay's facilitation techniques are not working for you, please tell him! He will work to address your concerns.
8. Work group participants may propose additional ground rules if desired.

OSS Work Group – Goals and Roles:

Context: Public Health – Seattle & King County wants to revitalize its OSS Program by:

- a) completing an update of the King County Onsite Sewage System (OSS) Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Management Plan;
- b) submitting the Plan to the King County Board of Health for their review and approval; and
- c) implementing the Plan.

To accomplish these goals, Public Health has invited individuals representing a variety of interests (OSS industry, Realtors, home and business owners w/OSS, environmental groups, rural area community organizations, developers, and relevant government agencies) onto a Work Group.

Work Group Goals: The Work Group will review issues to be addressed in an updated Plan, and provide input, ideas and recommendations to Public Health on those issues. Public Health will use those recommendations in the development of its updated Plan.

Parties & Roles:

Contract Facilitator – will ensure that meetings track with the agenda, issues are offered and discussed, comments and recommendations are collected and recorded, time is used efficiently, and meetings start and end on time.

Work Group Members – will review relevant issues, and provide comments and recommendations on those issues; the group will strive for consensus recommendations, but if consensus cannot be achieved, objections or alternate opinions will be recorded.

The Public – will have an opportunity to provide comments at each meeting and/or submit written comments for consideration.

Public Health Staff – will propose issues and topics to discuss, provide technical and issue expertise to the Work Group, and supervise the drafting of the Plan update and its submittal to the King County Board of Health.

King County Board of Health – composed of:

- ✧ 3 Seattle City Council Members
- ✧ 2 elected Mayors/City Council Members
- ✧ 3 King County Council Members
- ✧ 3 appointed Health Professionals from Sound Cities Association

has broad authority under state law to protect public and environmental health. They exercise that authority over OSS by enacting local regulations, and directing and overseeing the work of Public Health.

King County OSS Work Group - Proposed Schedule (v. 3-14-16):

**All meetings are proposed for the 4th Tuesday of each month, except as noted.*

- ▷ **March 22**
- ▷ **April 26**
- ▷ **May 17* (3rd Tuesday)**
- ▷ **June 28**
- ▷ **July 26**
- ▷ **August 23**
- ▷ **September 27**
- ▷ **October 25**

All meeting times are scheduled for 1:30PM to 4:00PM.

Meeting location is at [Eastgate Public Health Center/Eastgate Environmental Health Services, 14350 SE Eastgate Way, Bellevue, WA 98007.](#)

OSS Work Group – Potential Meeting Topics:

March 22:

- ▷ What are the legal requirements to address and regulate OSS?
- ▷ What are the basics of OSS; how do they work; what is proper O&M; what pollution comes from improperly operated and maintained, and failed, OSS?
- ▷ What is the status of King County's current OSS Program and what are its challenges?
- ▷ Program financing update.

April 26 & May 17:

- ▷ What are the priority areas susceptible to OSS pollution (and what water quality testing is needed to detect pollution there):
 - ✧ Shellfish growing areas
 - ✧ Critical recharge areas/potable water aquifers
 - ✧ Up-gradient areas from water recreation and swimming facilities
 - ✧ Wetland areas growing human food crops
 - ✧ Areas with nitrogen contamination - eutrophication problems
 - ✧ Sole source aquifers
 - ✧ Group A wellhead protection areas
 - ✧ Ecology designated ground waters needing special protection
 - ✧ Frequently flooded areas
 - ✧ Other areas designated by Public Health

June 28:

- ▷ What education and outreach methods should be used to achieve proper OSS O&M; how could owners be reminded and encouraged to get their OSS checked as required? What should the requirements be for high-risk areas?
- ▷ How much effort should be spent on quality control of the OSS industry?

July 26:

- ▷ Finding the unknown OSS in King County - update; how can all required records and records of O&M inspections be obtained?
- ▷ How can compliance with OSS permit application, operation and maintenance, monitoring, and failure repair requirements be achieved; what enforcement methods should be used?

August 23:

- ▷ Compliance/enforcement discussion continued.
- ▷ Resource prioritization exercise.